Cheyenne & Arapaho
TRIBAL TRIBUNE

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Hundreds turn out for celebration of Bears Ears National Monument

(MONUMENT VALLEY, UT) "It's a great day to celebrate," Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye told more than 400 grassroots supporters and esteemed tribal leaders who gathered at the Monument Valley Welcome Center to commemorate designation of the Bears Ears National Monument.

"This is what we all did," Begaye went on to say, "This is what working together is all about. We are a powerful voice."

Elected leaders from the five Tribes of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition were met by cheers from a diverse audience of Native and non-Native people of all ages, who traveled through the first snow of the new year to celebrate the historic designation of Bears Ears National Monument.

"I am thankful from the bottom of my heart," grinned Navajo Nation Council Delegate Davis Filfred, who represents five Utah Navajo districts. Delegate Filfred introduced legislation this week in support of Bears Ears National Monument, which the entire Navajo Nation Council passed unanimously on Jan. 5, 2017.

Alfred Lomaquahu, vice chairman of the Hopi Tribe, told those assembled, "Your strength becomes our strength. Your blessings become our blessings. We're doing this for all the people who realize this land holds our being. It holds who we are."

"This was a grassroots effort," stated Navajo Nation Vice President Jonathan Nez to cheers from the audience. "This is your monument. This is everyone's monument. Congratulations go to each and everyone of you." he added, "We are the first environmentalists in the history of this planet, so who better to be at the table?"

"Each one of us has a right to stand proudly and say, my voice was heard," said former Ute Mountain Ute Councilwoman Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk. "We've changed history because we've stepped beyond consultation."

She also articulated, "We've got to protect the eloquent words of this proclamation. And second, we've got to defend the Antiquities Act."

"The fight doesn't have to be a fight," stated Shaun Chapoose, Chairman of the Ute Tribe of Uinta Ouray Reservation. "We have all worked together, and we will continue working together."

Bears Ear / *pg. 4*

Newly established land management office makes its way into 2017

By Latoya Lonelodge, Staff Reporter

With the start of a new year brings new possibilities and opportunities. Of the many endeavors within the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribe, the newly established Land Management Program (LMP) forges ahead into 2017. Under the administration of Cheyenne and Arapaho Governor Eddie Hamilton, the LMP was formed primarily because there was a need for land resources within the community.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes have one of the largest tribal land bases in Oklahoma, extending throughout eight counties.

LMP provides resources and services for landowners, such as consolidating information for tracking leases, spot-checking properties and providing landowners with outreach education. Recently through a cooperative agreement award, Land Management is now working with the Land Buy Back Program. The Secretary of the Interior for Tribal Nations established the Land Buy Back Program from the Elouise Cobell settlement, which provided $1.9 billion Trust Land Consolidation funds to consolidate fractional land interests across Indian Country.

There are approximately 125 tribes in the U.S. that are at risk for fractionalization. Fractionated ownership is defined as more than one or two owners on any particular land, with the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes being number 22 in the U.S. with tribal land jurisdiction at risk for fractionalization. With each passing generation, the number of owners grows rapidly, resulting in high-fractionated ownership of Indian land.

"Meaning, in probably the next generation we're really close to losing our land base in our jurisdiction. That money was set aside to help tribes buy back land that was in their original land base from willing sellers. Willing sellers are those individuals who may own less than a tenth of an acre," Caressa James, LMP assistant director said.

Before the formation of the LMP there had not been an office devoted to landowner issues.

"We handle issues anywhere from land owner education and outreach education. We want our landowners to know their rights as a landowner and to know the tribe's role in land and tribal land ownership. We want to help educate them on the role of BIA as well, to give them resources to make better informed decisions." James said.

Other issues relating to land management is encroachment and environmental issues that are hazardous to the property and leasing issues.

"Sometimes landowners aren't fully informed of what they're signing so they're not making informed decisions. We've been coming across that type of issue. We're also trying to educate people to get wills because of the current probate process a lot of people aren't knowledgeable of it," James said.

The LMP provides outreach opportunities for landowners for questions or concerns pertaining to land or property. Educating people on the Land Buy Back program serves as part of the outreach as well.

"They need to have security or a sense of mind that if they are going to sell this is how the process works, this is what they get, this is how it goes to the tribe. They need to know all of that so they can feel comfortable with their decision," James said.

The LMP plans to work with Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS), who will be brought in specifically for providing landowners with different options at no cost. James verified that the LMP makes sure that the properties and lands are in good condition.

"We try to upkeep these properties so that their land value stays good. Our land is all we have, as far as allowing us to develop. So it's really important of us to keep tabs on it in a sense to promote our land stewardship in a positive direction," she said.

Along with the need for landowner's resources, the LMP also provides the opportunity for economic development. "We're just looking at needs in the community, what's the best use for the plan, how can we benefit the communities more."

By examining the needs within the communities, Land Management is able to determine valuable resources that will better benefit the community, such as community centers or cemetery space," James said.

"In the Watonga area, the tribal cemetery there is pretty much maxed out in space and so there's a need there in the community because we have a lot of tribal members there."

Although the Land Management Office is still within its beginning stages, James said their biggest accomplishment was receiving the cooperative agreement for Land Buy Back,

"For us to get it as quickly as we did we worked really hard on it all last year to get this cooperative agreement, they accepted it and gave us the award money that the tribe deserves."

The award money for the cooperative agreement comes from the Land Buy Back Program, Department of Interior. James stated the award money is held in the Department of Interior to buy property.

"We do the outreach, the face to face with landowners, but when it comes to sending offer letters out and cutting checks, the tribe does not do that, the Department of Interior does that."

For more information on land ownership and tribal land contact the Land Management Office at 405-422-7403. For information on the Land Buy Back Program, visit www.doi.gov/buybackprogram.

Stepping up for foster home recruitment

By Rosemary Stephens, Editor-in-Chief

Envision you are 13 years old waking up on Christmas morning. What visions come to mind? Waking up in your own room, nestled with love and your own belongings? Jumping out of bed to rush to the Christmas tree and finding a variety of gifts, all wrapped in pretty paper and colorful ribbons just for you?

Now imagine you are that 13 year old waking up on Christmas morning in a youth shelter, no family, no room of your own nestled with warmth, but in a room shared by the many other children in need of a foster home.

Not a comforting thought is it? Reality nonetheless. With over 400,000 children in foster care as of June 30, 2016, the need for foster homes is greater than ever.

But the push to provide homes for Cheyenne & Arapaho children in state custody has become a top priority, and even a mission for foster care caseworkers Kara Faris and Dakota Wahkinney.

Faris and Wahkinney sat down with the C-A Tribal Tribune to talk about the task they have taken on and why it is so important to each of them.

"We have a total of 321 C&A children in custody, with 67 of the kids in tribal custody, 245 in Oklahoma State DHS custody and nine in youth shelters, ranging in ages 0-18 years. Foster parents would apply through the Cheyenne & Arapaho tribes and would be licensed through the tribe," Faris said.

The goal is to recruit tribal homes so the children are able to keep in touch with their heritage, culture and their community.

"Because they are not just their parent's kids, they belong to all of us in the tribe and we want to make it clear to the kids that we all care and want to welcome them … and that we haven't forgotten about them," Faris said.

Faris and Wahkinney acknowledged that some of the kids are in great homes and there are some really great foster parents out there who care for tribal kids very well. What they are striving to do is recruit more tribal homes so when the need arises, the kids can be placed within tribal families. Families that already know their traditions, their customs that can take them to powwows and surround them with their culture.

"There was this film we watched in training about Native American children that were adopted out to non-Tribal families and they knew they were different and longed to find out who there were. Once they did they felt at peace and whole again because they were a part of the circle, part of their tribes," Faris said.

Faris said the challenge is recruiting and finding people who will step up within the tribes and say, 'yes I will open up my home.' For example, the tribes hosted their first foster home recruitment event in November 2016 resulting in a total of five applications being filled out for foster homes.

"You don't have to be rich. You don't have to have a big fancy house. Just love. Consistency. Stability."

"We have so many kids out there that have been adopted out. Our tribes, from the beginning have always taken care of their people, especially their women, children and elders. So that is our challenge. We need people to step up, be willing to open up their homes and be willing to take kids to keep them inside of our tribe," she said.

Wahkinney knows first-hand the impact of being a loving and consistent adult in a child's life can have. After working for years in his tribe's (Comanche) youth shelter and more recently as a caseworker within the Cheyenne & Arapaho tribes, he himself has decided to be a foster parent.

"I work at a group home at my tribe and here, so I see these kids and I feel like they're my kids now. Like after my 8-hour shift I get to go home, see my family, but I see these kids go into their rooms and I think they don't get to go see their families, or have a home to go to, so I am devoted to them, 100 percent," Wahkinney said.

Every case is different. Every situation is unique. The common thread is the wellbeing and nurturing of the children. Some of the kids have been in the system for years, some briefly. All of them dream only of being cared about.

"I have a child I have gotten really close to me who told me, 'I pray to God every night that God would put your heart into my mom so she would love me as much as you do.' It's said because the child feels like they did something to get taken away, bit it isn't. It's what the parents did, but the child still feels like they did something wrong and they ask 'what did I do to make my parents leave me?' And to me that's just the saddest thing to see or witness," Wahkinney said.

For Faris, she said the saddest part for her are seeing all the older children in group homes that can't be placed because people want babies or toddlers.

"There's nothing wrong with these kids, o disabilities, no behavior problems, their just older. When I talk to them they ask me what I do and I explain to them what I did, and they says to me, 'so you are working on fining me a home?' And I am. I am working hard to find all of them homes," Faris said.

But to fulfill that promise, there needs to be more foster homes that will take in older children. Faris said as older children they understand what's going on and their situation. That in some cases, their parents have had their parental rights terminated, so they understand they don't have a family.

"So what would it feel like to wake up Christmas morning in a group home? I just kept thinking that over and over and it broke my heart," Faris said.

And that's what has motivated her to open up her home and become a foster parent.

"You don't have to be rich. You don't have to have a big fancy house. Just love. Consistency. Stability."

Another foster home recruitment event is planned for 10 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., Saturday Jan. 21 at the El Reno Public Library in El Reno, Okla. To learn more about becoming a foster parent or for an application, call 405-422-7592.

JOM RECEIVES DONATION

Thank you to Lucky Star Casino/Concho and our casino patrons, who together raised $68,606.78 for the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) program.

Lucky Star Casino hosted a fundraiser where patrons donated $5 and received $10 in free play to benefit Cheyenne & Arapaho tribal youth through the JOM program.

Pictured l-r: Cheyenne & Arapaho Governor Eddie Hamilton, Lucy Star Assistant General Manager Tracer Hamilton, JOM Coordinator Francine Williams, Cheyenne & Arapaho Lt. Governor Cornell Sankey and Lucky Star Casino General Manager Mannix Barnes. (Photo / Rosemary Stephens)

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for a child in need
Become A Foster Parent
You can Make a Difference, Our Culture Matters
Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes'
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10 am-12:45 pm Jan. 21, 2017
El Reno Public Library
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CALL NOW FOR INFORMATION OR APPLICATION
405.422.7592 or
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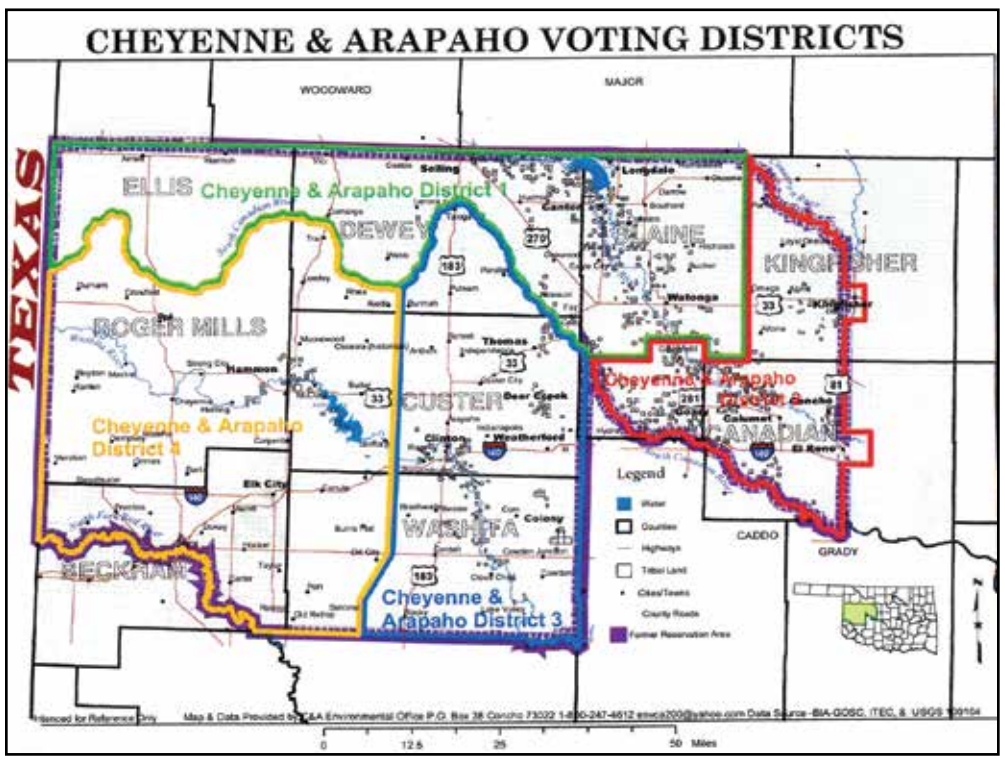
2017 marks another election year in the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes government

General information about the Election process



(CONCHO, OK) January marks the beginning of another new year, 2017. An election year for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes governor and lieutenant governor seats, as well as four legislative seats, whose terms all expire as of Dec. 31, 2017.

The following information is taken directly from the Cheyenne & Arapaho Constitution, outlining qualification requirements and upcoming election process timelines. Beginning with the governor and lieutenant governor seats:

Article VII – Executive Branch (pg. 12)

Section 2. Terms. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall serve four year terms or until a successor has been sworn into office. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor may serve as many terms in succession or otherwise as decided by the voters.

Section 3. Qualifications.

a. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be at least thirty-five years old, enrolled members of the Tribes, and each possess at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited school.

b. No person convicted of a felony within the last ten years shall serve as Governor or Lieutenant Governor unless pardoned.

c. At time of filing a nomination petition, a candidate for Governor or Lieutenant Governor shall physically reside in a voting district. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be residents of a voting District for the duration of their terms.

d. A candidate for the Office of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall submit copies of his or her Federal income tax returns for the previous five years and provide a written list of all of his or her personal and real property.

e. A candidate for the Office of Governor and Lieutenant Governor cannot owe any money or owe any debts to the Tribes.

Article VI – Legislative Branch (pg. 6)

Section 3. Terms. District Legislators shall serve four year staggered terms of office. A Legislator shall be eligible to serve three consecutive terms under this constitution. Upon the completion of the third consecutive term, the Legislator shall not be eligible to serve on the Legislature until a period of two years has elapsed. A partial term shall be considered a term.

Section 4. Qualifications.

Each District Legislator shall be an enrolled member of the Tribes, age 25 or older and shall possess a high school degree or its equivalent.

B. No person convicted of a felony within the last ten years shall serve as a District Legislator unless pardoned.

C. At time of filing a nomination petition, a candidate for District Legislator shall physically reside in such District. Each District Legislator shall reside in the District from which they are elected for the duration of their term. Each District legislator shall be a registered voter in the District from which they are elected.

D. A candidate for the Office of District Legislator cannot owe any money or owe any debts to the Tribes.

E. No Legislator shall be otherwise employed in any governmental capacity.

Legislative districts being opened for candidates in 2017 are Cheyenne District 2, Cheyenne District 4, Arapaho District 1 and Arapaho District 2.

Timeline for election procedures, as laid out in the constitution reads,

Article IX – Elections

Section 8. Procedures.

Beginning on May 1 of an election year, nominations for elective office shall be open to qualified candidates. Nominations shall close on June 1. The Election Commission shall make all determinations regarding the eligibility of candidates to seek elective office and shall publish a preliminary list of qualified candidates no later than Jun 15. Any member of the Tribes may challenge a name on, or the omission of, a name from the preliminary list of candidates by filing a written protest with the Election Commission by July 15. The Election Commission shall decide all written protests to the preliminary list of candidates no later than August 1. The Election Commission shall publish a final list of candidates no later than August 15.

The Election Commission shall publish a preliminary list of eligible voters no later than June 15 of an election year. The Enrollment Department and the Election Commission shall cooperate in the development of the preliminary list of eligible voters. Any member of the Tribes may challenge a name on, or the omission of name from the preliminary list of eligible voters by filing a written protest with the Election Commission by July 15. The Election Commission shall decide all written protests to the preliminary list of eligible voters no later than August 1. The Election commission shall publish a final list of eligible voters by August 15.

Primary election will be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in October in odd numbered years. The candidates receiving the two highest number of votes in the Primary Election shall proceed to the General Election.

The General Election will be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November in odd numbered years. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes in the General Election shall be seated.

Oklahoma Democratic party announces new Native American liaison, Cheyenne & Arapaho citizen Larenda Morgan

(OKLAHOMA CITY) The Oklahoma Democratic Party announced that LaRenda Morgan is the new Native American Liaison. As the Native American Liaison Morgan will communicate and coordinate outreach efforts with Oklahoma Tribes and the Oklahoma Democratic Party.

Morgan, a resident of Oklahoma City and an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, received her Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma. She is an Alumni member of Gamma Delta Pi Sorority at the University of Oklahoma and served as Cultural Affairs Chair for the American Indian Student Association while attending OU.

Morgan ran for House District 93 in 2016 and previously worked with Indian Health Services Oklahoma City Area Office, and the State of Oklahoma. She served as Executive Director for the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma and is a strong advocate for Social Welfare issues primarily on Indian Child Welfare/Foster Care. She also served as a consultant for families, individuals, and legal agencies regarding the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Morgan said, "I am very humbled and honored to serve the Oklahoma Democratic Party as the Native American Liaison. I am also very happy to be representing all Tribes in Oklahoma as well. I look forward to building stronger relationships between the Native American community and the Oklahoma Democratic Party. I hope to encourage tribal members to become more active in the Party as well as their tribal government, as both are equally important for our future and the future of our children. Every voice and every vote counts! Thank you, Ha'hou!"

The mission of the Oklahoma Democratic Party is to represent working people in Oklahoma and the best way to accomplish that is to elect Democrats to all areas of government. Oklahoma Democrats are progressive and sensible. We are optimistic about the future, and we are determined to see Oklahoma's traditional values upheld. More information about the Oklahoma Democratic Party can be found at www.okdemocrats.org or by calling (405) 427-3366.

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COMPARISON 2015 - 2016

DATE	2015	2016
JAN	$ 3,181,456.15	$ 2,933,004.04
FEB	$ 4,101,126.49	$ 2,797,797.98
MAR	$ 5,024,920.25	$ 5,991,768.19
APR	$ 4,387,520.40	$ 2,977,104.18
MAY	$ 4,117,261.70	$ 2,572,224.43
JUN	$ 3,879,289.25	$ 3,432,516.23
JUL	$ 3,405,784.51	$ 2,508,535.35
AUG	$ 3,175,454.38	$ 2,597,562.26
SEP	$ 3,916,856.07	$ 3,265,443.17
OCT	$ 2,744,303.82	$ 2,396,856.33
NOV	$ 2,021,906.06	$ 1,785,827.19
DEC	$ 2,212,760.96	$ -
TOTAL	$ 42,168,640.04	$ 33,258,639.35

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2010-2016 NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALIST ASSOCIATION MEDIA AWARD WINNER & 2012-2016 AWARD WINNER OF THE OPA BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

EATING healthy for DIABETES

New Year's Resolutions

Tara Conway, MS, RD, LD, CDE
C&A Diabetes Wellness Program

It's the New Year.

How Are Your Resolutions Working for You?

It's the new year and we have made ourselves all of these resolutions. How motivated are you and are you already frustrated and giving up? Let's look at triggers and challenges to help us keep our goals.

We all have unhealthy triggers that prevents us from sticking to our goals. Triggers involve our everyday life and could be part of why we fail to reach our goals. Some areas of our life where triggers affect us and how to cope with these triggers include activity, shopping, eating and sitting still.

Let's look at shopping triggers.

What causes you to buy unhealthy food? Let's look at some shopping triggers.

I'm hungry. Never go to the store on an empty stomach, not only will you buy unhealthy food you will also spend more money on groceries. Have a healthy snack like baby carrots before you go shopping.

I feel sad, anxious, stressed or mad. Put off the shopping until you feel better.

It's on sale, or I have a coupon. Don't clip coupons for unhealthy items. It looks tempting. That is the way the stores want you to feel to entice you to buy the unhealthy product. Stay away from the tempting parts of the store.

I always buy this. Shop with a list, and stick to it.

It's for my spouse/kids/grandkids. Show your love in a healthy way.

Think about the triggers that cause you to buy unhealthy foods. Write them down on paper and look at ways you can overcome your shopping triggers.

Do you sit still? Here are some sitting still triggers to think about.

I always lie on the couch and watch TV. Ride a stationary bike while you watch TV. Be active during commercials.

My joint/feet hurt. Find ways to be active that are easy on your body.

I'm tired. Get more sleep at night, take a short nap.

Setting goals and keeping goals is a lifelong task. It is not easy. You will have setbacks. Remember take credit for the setback and start again on your goals. Most people say, 'well I've already failed so why keep going.' Think positive.

For more information and tips on eating contact Tara Conway at the Diabetes Wellness Program, 405-422-7685 or email tconway@c-a-tribes.org.

Top five reasons for the flu vaccine

By CSU's Medical Director Dr. Sara Hartnett, MD

It is that time of year again ... flu season. We are currently in the heart of flu season. If you have not already received a yearly flu shot, now's the time to act and get one. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends for everyone over six months of age to get a yearly flu vaccine.

Dr. Hartnett's top five reasons she recommends the flu vaccine to all of her patients, friends and family:

1. Flu is no joke. Influenza (flu) is a serious viral illness causing thousands of deaths each year. While most flu related death is among the elderly and chronically ill, even young, healthy people who catch the flu can become seriously ill. It is not unusual to have high fevers for several days and to miss up to a week of work due to the flu, and who has this kind of time?

2. The flu shot works. The flu vaccine trains your body to fight the flu, either so you can avoid getting it at all, or if you do get it, you will not be nearly as sick. Every year the scientists who develop the flu vaccine do extensive studies to determine which strains of the flu they expect to dominate the flu season. The vaccines made based on these predictions. Some years the prediction is spot-on and we get great protection. Other years, the virus is sneaky and we may see the vaccine is less effective. Some people see the flu vaccine as "not worth it," because there is not 100 percent protection. Think about it this way, if you were going to go in the rain, would you rather have a small umbrella or no umbrella at all?

3. The flu shot does not give you the flu. The flu vaccine is made from either a killed or a very weak form of the flu. While some people may get a little runny nose, cough, or soreness after their flu vaccine, these symptoms are very mild compared to the nastiness of a true flu infection.

4. We have more choices than ever. There are many options for getting the flu vaccine. In addition to the traditional shot which goes into the muscle, an intradermal vaccine is available. The intradermal version goes under the skin rather than all the way into the muscle. Egg-free versions are available for those who have had serious allergic reactions to eggs. Depending on what is in stock, all versions may not always be available at CSU, but speak with your nurse, pharmacist, or medical provider about what options are available and what will work best for you.

5. We can all help protect each other. When you get a flu vaccine you are not only protecting yourself you are protecting everyone around you. Not everyone can get a vaccine, especially tiny babies or people with very weak immune systems. Since no vaccine is 100 percent not everyone who gets the vaccine will have full protection. The more of us who get the vaccine, overall there will be less cases of the flu floating around ready to infect vulnerable people. When you really think about it getting your flu shot can help save the life of someone's newborn baby or sick grandmother.

Flu shots are now available at any of CSU's three clinics, including Clinton, El Reno and Watonga. Appointments are not necessary to receive the flu shot. Just come in to the clinic and they will be happy to provide a flu shot and get you on your way. Best wishes for a safe and healthy flu season.

Bears Ear

continued from pg. 1

"Bears Ears is our place of healing," observed Eric Descheenie, Representative-elect for the Arizona House of Representatives and former Co-Chair of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition. "The opposition cannot compromise our ability to heal. It is absolutely critical that we develop a space for high-level intellectual conversation where we can talk about who we are and what it means to be human. Bears Ears Commission has created such a space.

"The narrative has to shift. Please recognize that indigenous people carry a different body of knowledge. Let's embrace that difference, support one another, and champion the new narrative."

Russell Begaye addresses the crowd as they gather to celebrate Bears Ear Monument declared by President Barak Obama during his last days in office. (Photo by Tim Peterson)

As the audience smiled over bowls of hominy mutton stew and frybread, Navajo Nation President Begaye concluded, "Bears Ears is all about Indian people standing together."

JOIN US!!

SAVE THE DATE!!!

The C&A Nutrition Education Team will be conducting a WATCH & SAMPLE food demo on **JANUARY 24, 2016** starting at **12:00 PM** located in the Food Distribution Kitchen. We will be preparing & tasting BAKED APPLE CHIPS. ALL AGES that are able to attend are encouraged to do so.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU!

For more information, contact the C&A Food Distribution @ 405) 422-7873 OR 888)747-9520.

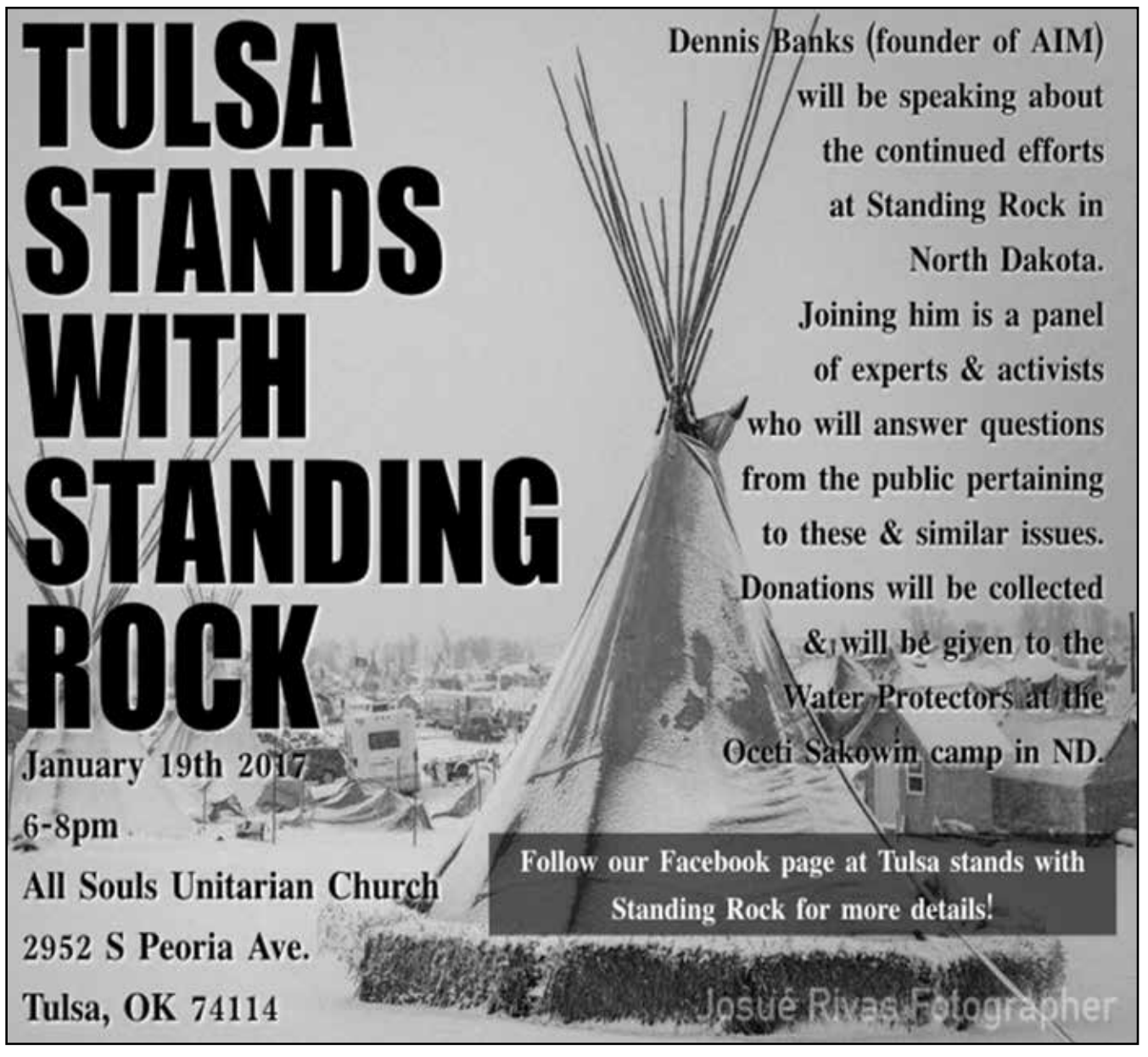
CALLING ALL COMMOD CHEFS

The C&A Food Distribution program, along with the First Nations are creating a ***COOKBOOK*** with ***ALL*** our client's yummy, delicious recipes made from commods!

We are asking each and every client to submit their wonderful recipes to the program ***as soon as possible*** so we can begin compiling the book.

Once completed the cookbooks will be available to each of you for ***FREE***!

For more information or to submit your recipe call 405-422-7873 or toll free 888-747-9520.


TULSA STANDS WITH STANDING ROCK
January 19th 2017
6-8pm
All Souls Unitarian Church
2952 S Peoria Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74114
Dennis Banks (founder of AIM) will be speaking about the continued efforts at Standing Rock in North Dakota.
Joining him is a panel of experts & activists who will answer questions from the public pertaining to these & similar issues.
Donations will be collected & will be given to the Water Protectors at the Oceti Sakowin camp in ND.
Follow our Facebook page at Tulsa stands with Standing Rock for more details!
Josué Rivas Fotographer

POWWOWS & EVENTS CALENDAR

Tulsa Stands with Standing Rock

6-8 p.m., Jan. 19 at the All Souls Unitarian church, 2952 S. Peoria Avenue in Tulsa, Okla.

Guest speaker will be Dennis Banks, founder of AIM and a public forum panel will answer questions. All proceeds will be donated to the Oceti Sakowin Camp in N.D.

Food Distribution Watch & Sample Food Demonstration

12 p.m., Jan. 24 at the Food Distribution kitchen in Watonga, Okla. The Nutrition Education Team will be preparing and taste sampling baked apple chips. All ages are invited to attend. For more information call 405-422-7973 or toll free 888-747-9520.

Office of the Tribal Council Community Meetings

All meetings will be held 6-8 p.m.

Jan. 24 at the Hammon Community Center in Hammon, Okla.

Jan. 31 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla.

Feb. 2 at the Geary Community Center in Geary, Okla.

Feb. 7 at the Watonga Community Center in Watonga, Okla., and

Feb. 9 at the Canton Community Center in Canton, Okla. For more information call 405-422-7430.

TERO Bank Recruitment & Contractor Certification

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Jan. 23 at the Native American Church building in Concho, Okla.

General laborers, construction tradesmen and contractors invited. Only serious applicants need apply.

For more information contact Thomas Fasthorse at 405-422-7490.

The 85th Barefoot Powwow / Sweetheart Benefit Dance

Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Watonga Community Center in Watonga, Okla. Gourd dance 4 p.m., supper 6 p.m. Two-step contest and potato dance.

MC Asa Littlebird, HS O.T. Sankey, HMD Roy Dean Bullcoming, HLD Theresa Kiley, HLB Jarrett Snow (10), HLG Happy Shortman (9), AD Elvin Kendrick and Host Red Moon Gourd Clan.

For more information contact Lynn LittleHawk at 580-447-1904.

Native American photography exhibition opens Jan. 26 at OU

(NORMAN, OK) Noted early 20th-century photographer Edward Curtis (1868-1952) once referred to Native Americans as a "vanishing race." A new exhibition at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art proves that Native American communities are not vanishing at all ... they're thriving.

PHOTO/SYNTHESIS, an exhibition of contemporary photography by Navajo artist Will Wilson (b. 1969), offers a glimpse of living Oklahomans representing seven Native tribal communities, while also showing some of Curtis's historic works.

The exhibition opens with a complimentary public lecture by Wilson at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art on the University of Oklahoma Norman campus. A reception follows the lecture at 8 p.m.

Whereas Curtis is remembered for shaping modern views of historic Native Americans by depicting his subjects in specific poses, backgrounds and clothing, often of his choosing, Wilson invited his subjects to choose how they wanted to be photographed. Wilson and heather ahtone, the museum's James T. Bialac Associate Curator of Native American and Non-Western Art, spent the summer of 2016 working with tribal leaders in Oklahoma to photograph selected community members, some of whom were distant relatives of those originally included in Curtis's 1930 Indians of Oklahoma portfolio from his famous publication, The North American Indian.

This difference in approach is significant because it empowers the sitters to determine their own portrayal, ahtone said.

"Wilson and I are both interested in the relationship between identity and representation, especially as it is visually materialized for Native people through art," ahtone said. "Recognizing that photography is an important tool for representation and expressing agency, we committed to a methodology for *PHOTO/SYNTHESIS* that positioned the tribes as agents in the creation of the images. We hoped that this unique collaboration might cause a rift, breaking away from the historicizing effect of Curtis's images.

"Through co-authorship in the production of the photography by the tribal communities and Wilson, tribes were asked to consider how they wanted their communities to be represented through the image. In sharing authorship, an act of incredible generosity on the part of the artist, Wilson fostered reciprocity and respect, affirming that collaboration serves a powerful role in working with Native peoples."

PHOTO/SYNTHESIS serves as an extension of a greater body of work, the Critical Indigenous Photographic Exchange, which Wilson began in 2012. Wilson's CIPX program reimagines photography for Indigenous people by posing a single question: what if Indigenous people had invented photography?

By using a Civil War-era lens and a wet plate collodion process, Wilson produces photographs similar in appearance to those of Curtis. Wilson travels with a portable dark room, so he is able to take and develop the photograph within about 15 minutes. In addition to talking with sitters about how they wish to be portrayed before photographing them, he often invites subjects to watch the development process in the dark room.

"Wilson's resulting series is composed of stunning portraits, full of aesthetic value and individual personality, that also include the voice of the subject as part of the image," said ahtone. "As a curator, I found the photographs intriguing and the project an incredibly astute challenge to the issues of representation that persist for Indigenous communities. As a Native curator, though, CIPX begged another question: what if Indigenous people had invented museum curating? From this shared point of professional and cultural inquiry, and a visit over coffee with Wilson in 2013, *PHOTO/SYNTHESIS* was born."

The result is a suite of 53 new photographs by Wilson, plus 33 works by Curtis from the museum's permanent collection. Additionally, Wilson made video recordings of some of the leaders speaking to the contemporary issues they face. These first-person accounts are provided within the gallery through the augmented reality software Layar. Wilson's "Talking Tintypes" will be the first use of this software in a museum and with his photography.

Participating tribal communities include the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Comanche Nation, Osage Nation, Otoe-Missouria Tribe, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma and Wichita and Affiliated Tribes.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalog authored by exhibition curator ahtone and Janet Berlo, professor of art history and visual and cultural studies at the University of Rochester.

The exhibition remains on display through April 2 in the Nancy Johnston Records Gallery and is made possible, in part, by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

An educational space within the exhibition provides hands-on art activities and a photo booth encouraging visitors to consider portrayal in their own photographs. A gallery talk at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, will give visitors an opportunity to follow ahtone on an informal tour of the exhibition.

A new exhibition of photography by contemporary Navajo photographer Will Wilson opens at 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, such as this photo of Cheyenne Chief Gordon L. Yellowman, (2016) Archival pigment print from wet plate collodion scan, 8 x 10 in. (Image courtesy of the artist)

Additionally, the museum will open a small exhibition of works by Native Oklahoma artist Poteet Victory in the adjoining Ellen and Richard L. Sandor Gallery on the evening of Jan. 26. Victory's Abbreviated Portrait Series distills portraits of celebrities and other iconic figures to the most minimal forms and associated colors. A public guest lecture by Victory, followed by a reception, is scheduled for 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28.

These events are complimentary and open to the public.

More information about *PHOTO/SYNTHESIS* and the Abbreviated Portrait Series, as well as related programs, is available on the museum's website at www.ou.edu/fjjma.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is located in the OU Arts District on the corner of Elm Avenue and Boyd Street, at 555 Elm Ave., on the OU Norman campus. Admission to the museum is complimentary to all visitors, thanks to the generosity of the OU Office of the President and the OU Athletics Department. The museum is closed on Mondays. Information and accommodations on the basis of disability are available by calling 405-325-4938 or visiting www.ou.edu/fjjma.

Changes in Elder Care amidst budget cuts in 2017

By Rosemary Stephens
Editor-in-Chief

The Cheyenne & Arapaho tribes are one of the few tribes in Oklahoma who provide regular monthly assistance to all their elders within the tribe.

Currently there are approximately 2,210 elders and there are 1,928 who have completed applications to receive a $150 a month food check. In January the Elder Care Program distributed $289,200 in food payments alone. And as an added bonus, elders receive holiday checks in November and December.

In addition to food assistance, the Elder Care Program has always assisted with areas of medical, dental and cooling/heating assistance. However, due to budget cuts across the board for the year 2017, the frequency of assistance in these areas have changed.

"We have reduced our staff by five individuals when we were given this budget reduction. We looked at each employee's ability to come to work, what positions we could combine and where we could be more efficient in our work habits," Lori Penner, Cheyenne & Arapaho Elder Care Program director said.

Penner, who has worked all over the country, knows when there is a budget cut the first cuts come with staff.

"And in our case instead of taking $483,000 away from our elders, we started with the staff and then made other cuts in areas that would not take away from our elders. That's my primary concern … we are here to serve our people, our elders and my primary focus is and will be on the elders," she said.

Some of the changes that took affect Jan. 1, 2017 were medical assistance will be offered twice a year, instead of quarterly with the amount of $200 remaining the same. Dental assistance was changed to twice a year, instead of quarterly, again the amount of $200 remaining the same. There will no longer be assistance for dentures and hearing aids.

Another change now in place is winter heating and summer cooling assistance will now be one month's assistance.

"On some of these areas, we really took a look at and found that most had access to

Elder Care / *pg. 5*

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
OKLAHOMA
ELDER CARE PROGRAM

ELDER CARE PROGRAM

P.O. Box 133
Concho, OK 73022
Telephone: (405) 422- 7411
Fax: (405) 422-8230
eldercare@c-a-tribes.org

Elder Care Program
2017 Client Service Changes
Effective January 1, 2017

Medical Assistance
Office & Hospital visits> Assistance twice yearly, instead of quarterly

Dental Assistance
Dental> Assistance twice yearly, instead of quarterly

Denture Assistance
Dentures> No Assistance provided

Hearing Aid Assistance
Hearing Aid> No Assistance provided

Winter Heating & Summer Cooling Assistance
Changing from two month's assistance to one month's assistance> decision pending

All changes become effective January 1, 2017
These are the only services affected, other services remain the same
We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause
If you have any questions, please contact our Concho Office
1-800-247-4612 ext., 27411 or 405-422-7411

BRIEFS AT A GLANCE

Wellness Strategies for Community Health Representatives

Jan. 26-27, 2017 in Phoenix, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

Background Investigations and Vendor Licensing for the Tribal Gaming Operation

Jan. 26-27, 2017 in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

The 2017 Native Diabetes Prevention Conference

Feb. 12-15, 2017 at the Hilton Phoenix/Mesa in Phoenix, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.aii.ou.edu.

Audit Preparation for Tribes and Tribal Organizations

Feb. 13-14, 2017 in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

National Congress of American Indians 2017 Executive Council Winter Session

Feb. 13-16, 2017 at the Capitol Hilton in Washington, D.C. For more information or to register visit www.ncai.org.

Understanding the Indian Self-Determination Act: Contracting and Compacting Under P.L. 93-638

Feb. 15-16, 2017 in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

Tribal Financial Oversight Certification

Feb. 15-17, 2017 in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

The 2017 UNITY Mid-Year Conference

Feb. 17-20, 2017 at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel & Conference Center in Tempe, Ariz. Cost is $175. For more information call 480-718-9793 or to register visit www.events@unityinc.org.

Navigating the Fee-to-Trust Process for Indian Tribes

Feb. 23-24, 2017 in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

The 2017 National American Indian Housing Council Legislative Conference

March 6-8, 2017 at the Washington Court Hotel in Washington, D.C. For more information or to register visit www.naihc.net.

The National Indian Child Welfare Association's 35th annual Protecting Our Children National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

April 2-5, 2017 in San Diego, Calif. For more information or to register visit www.nicwa.org.

Federal Bar Association's Indian Law Conference

April 6-7, 2017 at the Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.fedbar.org.

ATHLETE'S SPOTLIGHT

Interview & Photo by Latoya Lonelodge, Staff Reporter

Born in Okeene, Okla., and raised in Watonga, Okla., Ashley Barcindebar,18, is well underway in her softball career as a senior. Standing at 5'7, she plays first base for the Watonga Eagle's softball team. In her final season of high school softball, Ashley helped lead her team to win district 2A and was chosen to play on the All-Conference team in Enid, Okla.

When did you first begin playing and how?

Well my grandpa always played his whole life, my dad played too, so it started pretty young. I think I was about five when I actually started on a team. That first game I just loved it ever since.

What is it about the sport that you love the best?

Just being with the team, its basically my other family. When I'm not at home, that's where I am.

What has been your biggest accomplishment in the sport so far?

Making all-conference, it was fun. We only got to play four innings because of the weather, but it was fun, I got to play with other teams and make new friends in Enid, Okla. They mix different teams and we played against Waukomis, Chisholm and Hennessey.

What is your biggest accomplishment in the classroom so far?

Just me making it to my senior year and seeing how far I have come from the beginning of high school, I have grown so much in the classroom.

What is your GPA (if known)?

3.2

What goals have you set for yourself in sports, school?

I really want to make it to All-State and State, at least try to get a scholarship to college. I want to go as far as I can with getting a scholarship, I want to be a physical therapist.

What actions are you taking to reach these goals?

With sports, I'm practicing as much as I can, as long as I can, getting any physical activity in. With school, I'm staying after school, I'm coming in early, doing as much as I can to get extra credit.

What has been the most exciting game you have played in?

Our Fairview game that we played, we've always been a rival of Fairview and this year we came so close but we lost by two.

What is the best advice you have ever been given and who gave you that advice?

My Coach Cope, he tells us to try as hard as we can and if we make a mistake just wipe it off and keep going.

Do you have a saying or motto that you live your life by?

Just keep going if you get stuck, keep going.

Who or what inspires you the most?

My mom, she had a seizure a couple years ago and her whole right side is shut down and she tries to do everything she can for us, it just keeps me going.

What does your routine workout consist of to stay fit for your sport? How often?

We lift in the field house, we do squats, bench, deadlift, do box jumps, and run. After all of that I go back out there and run another mile. It's every weekday.

What are one or two things in your training, that you feel are keys to you being successful in your sport?

Running and keeping your legs strong

What is your favorite meal before or after a game?

Sandwiches

Who has had the biggest impact on your life?

My mom.

What are some of your hobbies (what do you like to do when not playing sports)?

I like going to Church, hanging out with family and friends.

What kinds of music do you enjoy listening to?

Country, regular teenage girl and pop stuff, R&B.

What is one thing about you that no one else knows?

I'm an open book, I'm not secretive, I tell my friends stuff and I'm not really scared to tell anybody anything.

Were you ever bullied in school? What steps do you feel should be taken to protect those being bullied in schools today?

Yes. Get help, tell a teacher, if you're getting bullied you need to tell somebody, I've been bullied for four years before this and it lead me to suicidal thoughts and hurting myself, its just not worth it. Get more open with everybody and tell people, just make friends, that's all you really need.

How do you combat drug & alcohol use by peer pressure?

Just don't do it, in the long run you end up being worse than you were before.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

Bullying, its just not okay.

What would be a dream come true for you in your life?

Getting to travel as much as I can.

Who is your favorite athlete of all time?

Shoni Schimmel, shes kind of like how I was, I felt like quitting when I know I shouldn't have and it just inspired me to keep going.

Which team is your favorite team?

OU Sooners

What are your immediate plans after graduating high school?

Straight to college, I want to go to SWOSU.

What would be your advice to younger kids coming up behind you?

Not to give up, keep going, study as much as you can, stay in school. If you have a dream work for it, its not just gonna be handed to you, you got to work for what you got.

It was great, it was the best feeling in the world, we haven't won district in almost 10 years. We played Crescent in the district team, but we had to win so many games to get to decide who we played, like match up, and ours matched up with theirs so we played them. We won against them.

My freshmen year I tore my meniscus during a slow pitch game and I sat out the next season, or summer, trying to recover for that and I got released half way through my sophomore year. So I really got to start playing again.

Ashley's parents are Michael Barcindebar and Vivian Whiteshield. Her grandparents are Judy Willis and LC Jenkins. She has two siblings, Michaela Barcindebar and Laron Whiteshield.

Clinton Service Unit showcases best practices

Including: Information Technology, Electronic Management of Patient Information & Interdisciplinary Pain Management Team

Clinton Service Unit (CSU) had the opportunity to highlight several "Best Practices" developed within the service unit. Information Technology's (IT) Information System, the implementation of electronic management of incoming patient information, and our Interdisciplinary Pain Management Team.

"CSU highlighted the exceptional work to the Governing Board occurring within our facility," said April Wazhaxi, CEO "Through sharing our best practices, we are able to assist our community in getting the information and health services they need."

The IT department developed a web-based utility to aid, enhance their response time, and provide better support to assist CSU users. IT is now able to incorporate five programs into one easy to use program. This change allows IT to have access to key information about those systems, such as fax, phone, internet protocol numbers, service information and contacts, physical location of the equipment, and other vital pieces of data.

To streamline the process of managing incoming patient information and improve the timeliness of placing information received into our electronic health records, CSU implemented an electronic document management system. By doing so, we have been better able to track incoming information, such as: patient reports, hospital and emergency room records, registration papers, bills, and orders needing a provider's signature. The electronic system has increased the communication between all departments, reduced the amount of paper used, and reduced the amount of misplaced or duplicated documents.

To address the needs of patients with chronic pain, CSU designed the Interdisciplinary Pain Management Team (IPMT) to provide our patients with best practice in pain management interventions. This team follows the medical home model and meets weekly to review and determine the best interventions for each individual patient based on their diagnosis and pain needs.

The IPMT consists of a primary care provider, nurse case manager, physical therapy, chiropractic services, behavioral health, massage therapy, nutrition, pharmacy, and purchased and referred care. Following a referral from the patient's primary care provider, the IPMT establishes a care plan for each patient entered into the program. The nurse case manager will then contact the patient to schedule the appropriate therapies.

Patients' progress goes through review throughout the duration of their treatment plan. Currently, the team has 121 active patients, with 15 completing their course of treatments.

All of our patients enrolled in the program have received positive benefits with significant reduction of pain.

2017 Summer Program, Crazy Horse - High School Seniors encouraged to apply

Encouraging all motivated college bound high school Native seniors to contact Aaron Poor Bear at aaron.poorbear@crazyhorse.org or 605-677-7935 for additional information and/or a student application for the 2017 Summer Program at Crazy Horse (8-weeks).

This is a great opportunity for seniors to continue and/or to jump start their college experience. Participants will:

*Earn 12-14 USD credits that should transfer to their college of choice in the fall: College Algebra, English Composition, Psychology, Speech, etc.

*Work a credit-bearing paid internship 24 per week at $9 per hour.

*Meet weekly with an advisor to get "ducks in a row" for the fall.

*Receive a $500 National Jump Start Stipend.

*Earn a $400 Incentive Grant.

*Learn and practice college success strategies.

*Earn an annual USD Housing Scholarship (USD bound only).

*Engage in cultural-educational activities unique to the Black Hills and to Crazy Horse.

*Receive post-summer tracking and follow-up.

*Become eligible for a 2nd Year Upper Level Program

We encourage all Native American high school seniors to apply.

Elder Care

continued from pg. 5

dental assistance from IHS and some had dental insurance. We didn't just go in and say okay we are going to cut this service and this service. We looked overall at what we assisted with the most and what was the greatest need and we assist more with prescriptions and medical equipment and glasses. Precription and medical equipment assistance was a priority," Penner said.

Another change implemented in Elder Care is doing away with a monthly application elders previously were mandated to fill out, to a yearly application.

"They only have to fill out one application for the whole year now, with the only exception to that is if they have an address change, change of residence, than elders must update their application and fill out a new one," Penner said.

With all the new changes and adding almost the entire elder population of the tribes' for monthly food checks, the staff within the Elder Care Program said they feel it is an honor and privilege to serve the elders.

"There are days that we don't hear a good word or a compliment and then there are days where we get clients who say, 'I am so appreciative of everything you do,' and that really makes my heart happy to know we have helped. No matter how many bad complaints there are, when you have just one good compliment, the good outweighs all the bad every time. I love visiting and talking with the elders and one of my goas for 2017 is to get to know a lot more of our elders by name and face … it's been a big jump from assisting 1600 elders to over 1900," Lakendra Gould, caseworker said.

So as the first of each month rolls by, staff members of the Elder Care Program will be busily helping tribal elders in any way they can within their guidelines.

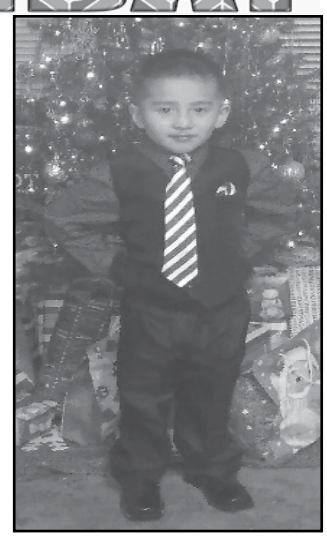
"A lot of people don't understand that we are good people, caring and loving people and if we didn't care about people and how things went we wouldn't be here. I have worked with the developmentally disabled, nursing homes, the prison system, and when you have a rapport with people things go very smoothly and very well. I think a lot of it is people don't know us, they are like 'elder care, oh my gosh,' and we are looked at like the enemy," Penner said. "One thing people need to realize is when you have guidelines you have to follow them and it's not fair to give someone an extra privilege when you can't give it to everyone across the board. Guidelines are in place for a purpose and we try to follow them to the best of our ability. Above all I appreciate being in a position to serve our people and I consider it a great honor."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January 19th
Happy 1st Birthday
Genevieve Dorothy Goodblanket
Love, mom, grandma
Dani and papa Goat

January 30th
Wishing my beautiful baby, Mary Ella Mowatt, her very 1st Happy Birthday! Also, to my wonderful husband and baby's father, Ronnie Mowatt. I cherish every moment that we spend together. Wishing many more happy birthdays to come. You both are my world. I love you two so very much, Anne Pedro - momma

January 21st
Happy Birthday Angeline Pedro, mom! Thank you for being such a great mother and grandma. Wishing you many more blessed birthdays. We all love you mom.



January 9th
Happy 4th Birthday, Matthew Kendric Kauley!! We love you. From all of your family!!

Gone but not forgotten
Shannon Duke Blackwolf
Rip son 1/23/2007
It is 10 years since you left us.
Love you, from all of your loved ones.

You left us without warning,
Not even a good-bye,
And I can't seem to stop,
Asking the question why?
I didn't see this coming,
It hit us by surprise,
And when you left for Heaven,
A small part of me died.
Your smile could brighten anyone's day,
No matter what they were going through,
And everyday for the rest of my life,
I'll be missing you.

In Loving Memory

Amos Malcolm Beaver Jr.
June 16, 1952
Jan. 8, 2017

Wake services were held for Amos Malcolm Beaver Jr. Jan. 11 at the Clinton Indian Baptist Church in Clinton, Okla.

Funeral services were held Jan. 12 at the same venue, followed by an Interment at the Clinton Indian Cemetery.

Barbara Hill
Jan. 1, 1938
Dec. 26, 2016

Wake services were held for Barbara Hill on Dec. 29, 2016 at the El Reno Indian Baptist Church in El Reno, Okla.

Funeral services were held Dec. 30 at the Canton Gym in Canton, Okla., followed by an Interment at the Redbird Cemetery in Longdale, Okla.

Edward Harrison Jr.
Aug. 23, 1964
Jan. 1, 2017

Wake services were held for Edward Harrison Jr. on Jan. 5 at the Smith Funeral Home Chapel in Anadarko, Okla.

Funeral services were held Jan. 6 at the same venue, followed by an Interment at the Family Cemetery in Ft. Cobb, Okla.

Gilbert Richard Curtis
April 11, 1954
Jan. 5, 2017

Wake services were held for Gilbert Richard Curtis on Jan. 10 at the Clinton Indian Baptist Church in Clinton, Okla.

Funeral services were held Jan. 11 at the Clinton Community Center, followed by an Interment at the Colony Cemetery.

William Kacey Sankey was born Feb. 2, 1985 in Clinton, Okla. to Winslow and Tonita (Fingernail) Sankey and passed away Jan. 6, 2017. Kacey, as we all knew him, graduated from Canton High School with the class of 2004. He enjoyed and loved being around his children, going to the casinos and being around his brothers.

Kacey was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers Milton Sankey and Crawford Sankey, and one sister Lorenda Fay Sankey.

He is survived by his sons Milton Kacey Sankey and Jacoby Andrew Sankey, brothers Winslow (Chubby) Sankey Jr. and Robert Sankey of the home in Hammon, Okla. Sisters Carol Phillips of Hammon, Okla., Hattie White of Ethete, WY and Corliss Black of Canton, Okla., aunts Christine Starr and Louise Whiteeagle of Hammon, Okla., Gloria St. Claire of Fort Washakie, WY, Flora Swallow of Riverton, WY and Frances Swallow of Busby, MT, sister-in-law Rhonda Sankey of Lamedeer, MT, uncles John David Whiteeagle of Hammon, Okla., Clyde Wallowingbull of Ethete, WY, nieces Bonnie Classen Day, Tommie Sampson, Jordon Whiteskunk and Keva White. Nephews Jeremy, Blake, Nick, Brian, Keith and Craig Phillips, Frank and Nelson White and Jaden Sankey, 11 grandchildren and one great-grand son; numerous cousins and other extended family.

Traditional wake services were held Jan. 12, 2017 at the Canton Native American Gymnasium in Canton, Okla. Funeral services were held Jan. 13 at the same venue with Rev. Donnie Ahhaitty, Rev. George Akeen Jr., Elvin Kenrick and Alexander Sankey officiating. An Interment followed at the Canton Cemetery under the direction of Pierce Funeral Home.

Happy 2017

Preparing now for ceremonies

'Respectfully submitted' by Max Bear, Director Culture & Heritage Program

I hope everyone had wonderful holidays. As we begin this calendar new year we are coming closer to the Arapaho and Cheyenne ceremonies and they will be here before you know it.

I would like to ask that everyone prepare and take inventory of what you may need and start saving money.

Start working out or walking, eating healthy and drinking water because it takes discipline to be ceremonial, not only one time of the year but throughout the year.

Do not depend on others or wait until the last minute to get what you need. Part of the sacrifice is to use your own resources and rely on your loved ones to complete your vow. There is still time in hunting season to acquire meat and the deer are abundant on our tribal lands within our Cheyenne and Arapaho territories. The meat from wild game can be dried out and stored away for later use as well as buffalo.

This has been a practice of our tribes for many generations and is still practical today. The Culture & Heritage program will continue to host an open invite to the annual buffalo butchers as much as three to four times this year for all people to obtain meat needed for ceremonies. Remember to pray throughout the process and include your helpers as needed.

These are the ways of our folks and it stems from the original teachings. It is up to us as Cheyenne and Arapaho people to carry on those traditions that have kept our culture and identity as it is today.

We are truly blessed to still have our ceremonial ways and culture and we must live together to preserve these ways because they are worth our total care and attention.

TERO Job Bank Recruitment & Contractor Certification

ATTENTION:
General Laborers
Contractors
Construction Tradesmen

ONLY SERIOUS APPLICANTS NEED APPLY

Hosted by the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Program that administers the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO). Lunch Provided

WHERE: Native American Church (NAC)
WHEN: Jan. 23, 2017, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

CONTACT: Thomas Fasthorse, Adm. Asst.-TERO Officer (405) 422-7490

Reversing Obama's last-minute land grab

By Alexandra Desanctis

The GOP plans to restore control of more than a million acres to the people of Utah and Nevada. In the waning hours of his presidency, Barack Obama has designated more than 1.5 million acres for two new national monuments, Bears Ears in Utah and Gold Butte in Nevada. State lawmakers in the region have for years debated creating these monuments and had yet to reach a conclusion before Obama made his controversial move.

The Bears Ears monument will take up an astounding 1.35 million acres, a region bigger than the state of Delaware, and the Gold Butte monument will cover nearly 300,000 acres in an area often referred to as Nevada's portion of the Grand Canyon. In a statement, the president asserted that these monuments "will protect places that a wide range of stakeholders all agree are worthy of protection." He also claimed that his administration "worked to ensure that tribes and local communities can continue to access and benefit from these lands for generations to come."

But many state lawmakers disagree, arguing that this decision puts vast pieces of land into the hands of the federal government alone, removing power from state lawmakers and thus removing control from the people of Utah and Nevada. These new monuments aren't the first occasion for such concerns to surface, especially in the western part of the country.

The federal government controls 25 percent of all land in the U.S., 50 percent of land west of the Rocky Mountains and 85 percent of the land in Nevada. Several Utah politicians have outspokenly opposed the Bears Ears designation, both before the White House made the decision official and after the president announced the move. In a *Fox News* interview last week, Utah representative Jason Chaffetz said he is firmly opposed to the Bears Ears designation.

"It's one of the biggest land grabs in the history of the United States, and it was done as this midnight monument in the waning hours of the Obama administration," he said. Chaffetz expressed the hope that President Donald Trump and his administration will reverse course on these monuments in the coming months, but it's unclear whether the president's decision is reversible. In designating these monuments, Obama acted under the authority granted to him by the Antiquities Act of 1906. He has used the Antiquities Act 29 times during his presidency to enact similar executive decisions about land. Franklin Roosevelt is the only president to have acted under the authority of this measure more frequently.

When the Act was first created in the early 20th century, it allowed the president to keep historical or prominent archeological sites from being immediately destroyed, in times when such destruction might come too quickly for Congress to prevent. Monument designations such as those made by President Obama present no emergency and thus ought to fall under Congress's purview. As GOP lawmakers have argued, the Act was never meant to authorize this type of presidential overreach. Supreme Court decisions outlining the power granted to the president under this Act suggest that a president can designate land, but he might not have the authority to reverse land designations that have already been made. This would suggest that President Trump will not be able to stop these latest designations in Utah and Nevada.

Even so, Senator Mike Lee of Utah is dedicated to limiting the scope of this decision, whether or not it can be fully undone. For example, it might be possible to narrow the Bears Ears monument to a few hundred acres, which would protect the actual site from destruction but wouldn't take up the vast expanse of 1.35 million acres. But Lee doesn't plan to stop there. In a recent op-ed, he promised to fight to repeal the Antiquities Act to prevent future presidential overreach. Utah's senior senator, Orrin Hatch, also criticized the decision, calling it an "attack on an entire way of life" and an "astonishing and egregious abuse of executive power." Like Lee, Hatch plans to work with the new administration to reverse the decision.

Meanwhile, Utah's attorney general, Sean Reyes, has already announced his intention to file a lawsuit against the federal government over the Bears Ears designation.

In Nevada, protestors have already gathered to express disapproval over the Gold Butte monument, even as environmental-protection groups and the state's Democratic lawmakers laud the new designation. For his part, Nevada governor Brian Sandoval lamented the fact that the president "bypassed Congress and the public" in making this decision.

The state's attorney general, Adam Laxalt, called the designation a "unilateral land grab," saying that Obama's decision made a "last-minute attempt to cement his environmental legacy by undermining local control of Nevada's communities, and damaging our jobs and economy."

We will soon learn whether the incoming administration can completely reverse President Obama's overreach. Whatever ensues, Republican lawmakers intend to remove both this power and this land from the federal government in order to restore it to the people of Utah and Nevada.

Alexandra DeSanctis is a National Review Institute William F. Buckley Fellow in Political Journalism

EMPLOYMENT

Employment: Submit a tribal application, resume, diploma(s), transcripts, valid copy of Oklahoma state driver's license and a copy of CDIB (if applidable) to Personnel Department, PO Box 38, Concho, OK 73022 or email atisdale@c-a-tribes.org.

Operations & Maint. Housing Authority
Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:

Must have high school diploma or GED certification. Must have at least one-year experience in facility operations and maintenance. Must have valid Oklahoma driver's license. Must be able to comply with Drug Free Workplace Act and applicable tribal policies. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Project Inspector/FT
Tribal Transportation
Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:

Bachelor's degree in any field of study preferred, however associate degree with at least two years experience in quality control and/or quality assurance acceptable (years of experience may be acceptable to be equivalent to the degree and experience requirements). Minimum of high school diploma or GED certification required. Able to understand AutoCAD Software and/or GPS/GIS software or like software. Demonstrate self-motivation by proving to be reliable and punctual. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding in construction management and compliance. Demonstrate knowledge in understanding construction material testing (CMT) in regards to proctors, density tests for subgrade, aggregate base, and asphalt materials, and sieve analysis for concrete type materials. Demonstrate computer skills and/or knowledge, specifically Microsoft Word, Excel, Access and/or various other applications. Willing and able to attend various training programs to ensure productiveness in duties and responsibilities assigned. Must possess current Oklahoma state driver's license and have reliable transportation. Must have an acceptable driving record and provide a Department of Public Safety (DPS) Motor Vehicle Report (MVR). Must pass pre-hire drug screen/test. Cheyenne-Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Transit Driver I/FT-Perm.
Tribal Transportation
Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:

The transit driver must possess or be willing to attend various training programs to gain a CPR and First Aid certification. Transit drivers must pass a pre-employment drug screening process and be subjected to random drug testing. Should be able to prove lifting a minimum of 50 lbs, with no physical barriers from doing so. Must possess the ability to communicate effectively to patrons and superiors any findings, incidents, activities and daily responsibilities. At a minimum, must possess a high school diploma and possible completion of a commercial driving training program and defensive driving program. Experience may be acceptable as an equivalent.

SALARY: Negotiable

Security Officers FT/PT
Concho
Closing: Until Filled

Qualifications:

High school diploma or GED certification required. Must possess a valid Oklahoma driver's license and have reliable transportation. Must be 18 years of age. Must be able to attend C.L.E.E.T. classes, Phase I and II and Use of Force training and obtain a C.L.E.E.T. license as required by Oklahoma state law. Must be able to complete C.L.E.E.T Phase IV and the associated MMPI-2 requirement. Must be willing to work flexible hours (on call status) which will include nights, weekends or over time. Or hours assigned during high alert status. Must be computer literate with knowledge of the Microsoft Office suite. Must be able to pass a pre-hire drug screening and submit to random drug testing. Must be able to pass a background check. Must not have any felony convictions, pending charges or high risk misdemeanors such as DUI, DWI, thefts, drugs, sex offenses, domestic violence, crimes of moral turpitude or any other charges as defined by the C.L.E.E.T. licensing requirements. Must be in good physical condition. Must have good oral and written communication skills. Must have knowledge of safety standards. Native America or Veteran preference, all other qualified persons welcome to apply.

SALARY: Negotiable

Firefighter Recruitment Notice

C & A Fire Management Program is still recruiting for Wildland and Structural Firefighters.

Scheduling of BIA physicals are required prior to pack testing. Once recruits have physicals scheduled through BIA and pack tests are complete, training will be scheduled.

Our goal is early Spring.

The following information is needed to sign up:

Name
Address
Home phone
DOB
Social Security #

Please contact Carrie Tallbird, Program Specialist at 405-422-7457 for forms and more information.

Thank you.

IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN 11 2017 IN THE TRIAL COURT
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FILM____ IMAGE____
COURT CLERK
DEPUTY

In The Matter Of The Guardianship Of:
T.B.P. DOB: 6/2/07
W.D.P. DOB: 5/15/08
Minor Children

Case No: PG-2016-01

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: KARYN A. POSTELWAIT

You are hereby notified that Wilma L. Conetsevah has filed in this Court a Petition For Guardianship of said persons and/or estates of T.B.P., DOB: 6/2/07 and W.D.P., DOB: 5/15/08; minor children, The said Petition is hereby set for a Temporary Guardianship Hearing to be heard in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the 1st day of **February, 2017** at **10:00 A.M.**, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said Temporary Guardianship should not be granted.

Dated this 11th day of January, 2017.

Rebekah Trojan, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

IN THE TRIAL COURT FOR THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
JUVENILE DIVISION
700 BLACK KETTLE BLVD., P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO , OKLAHOMA 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN - 3 2017 IN THE TRIAL COURT
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COURT CLERK
DEPUTY

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
In the Interest of:
K.L.W., DOB: 11-22-2003
Alleged Neglected or Dependent Child.
And Concerning:
Michael Sanchez, Putative Father
and Any Unknown Biological Father
Respondents.

Case No. JFJ-2016-0011

SUMMONS
AND
NOTICE OF HEARING

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: Michael Sanchez
Any Unknown Biological Father

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an Juvenile Petition has been filed in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Trial Court, Juvenile Division, alleging that the above named minor child is a neglected or dependent child and requesting the Court to adjudicate said child as such, and further stating that that the termination of the parent-child legal relationship between said child and her purported father, Michael Sanchez, and any unknown biological father, is a possible remedy available if the Juvenile Petition is sustained, all as more fully set out in the Juvenile Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the Tribal District Court, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **21st** day of **March, 2017**, at the hour of **9:30** o'clock **a.m.**, and to remain and answer the allegations contained in the Juvenile Petition and state whether you admit or deny the allegations of the Juvenile Petition.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the juvenile petition at the time and place above shown. You have the right to be present, to be represented by counsel, and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place, including the right to deny the allegations contained in the juvenile petition and the right to object to the granting of the juvenile petition and to show why your said children should not be adjudicated to be dependent or neglected children. Your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the children, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in an order of the Court adjudicating your said children as dependent or neglected children in accordance with law.

Dated this 1st day of January, 2017.

Lisa B. Otipoby Herbert, Judge
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

Albert Ghezzi, Attorney General
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes
P.O. Box 32
Concho, Oklahoma 73022
(405) 422-7855 or 425-9242

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Veterans Affairs Service Office will be hosting a Veterans meeting
12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Jan. 19, 2017 at the NAC Building in Concho, Okla.
Discussion of upcoming events and program updates related to the VA, Tribal HUDVASH Homeless program & local SSVF program.
Light light will be served.
For more information contact Office of Veterans Affairs Director Russell Willey at 405-422-7724 or 405-248-7520.

Join the Nutrition Education Team
For a Food Demonstration in conjunction with the Garden Project Walking Club
February 7th , 12pm @ Clinton Community Hall
February 14th , 12pm @ Concho Campus
After the walk, we will prepare
FRUIT KABOBS
For ALL PARTICIPANTS.
We look forward to seeing you!!!!

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED DEC 28 2016 IN THE TRIAL COURT
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COURT CLERK
DEPUTY

In The Matter Of The Guardianship Of:
P.L.D. DOB: 1/31/06
K.L.D. DOB: 9/21/04
D.L.D. DOB: 4/9/03
S.H.D. DOB: 7/4/99

Case No. PG-2016-130

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: BRANDON DENTON

You are hereby notified that Margaret Heap of Birds has filed in this Court a Petition For Appointment Of Guardianship of the person and/or estate of P.L.D., DOB: 1/31/06, K.L.D., DOB 9/21/04, D.L.D., DOB: 4/9/03, S.H.D., DOB: 7/4/99, Minor children and that on December 23rd, 2016, the petitioner, Margaret Heap of Birds was granted Temporary Emergency Guardianship and that said Petition is hereby set for a hearing in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **11TH** day of **JANUARY** 2017 at **10:00 A.M.**, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said guardianship should not be granted.

Dated this 23rd day of DECEMBER, 2016.

Rebekah Trojan, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
CHEYENNE-ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN - 4 2017 IN THE TRIAL COURT
DOCKET____ PAGE____
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COURT CLERK
DEPUTY

In The Matter Of The Guardianship Of:
D.N.T. DOB: 7/03/05
N.N. DOB: 2/17/08
S.N. DOB: 6/06/02
Minor Children Under The Age Of 18 Years

Case No. PG-2017-01

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: SIMON PEREZ TORRES
FAWNDA NIGHTWALKER

You are hereby notified that Bertha Nightwalker have filed in this Court a Petition For Temporary Emergency Guardianship of the persons and estates of D.N.T., DOB: 7/03/05; N.N., DOB: 2/17/08; and S.N., DOB: 6/06/02 minor children and that said Petition is hereby set for a hearing in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **18TH** day of **JANUARY**, 2017 at **10:00 A.M.**, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said guardianship should not be granted.

Dated this 4TH day of JANUARY, 2017..

Rebekah Trojan, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne-Arapaho District Court

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
CHEYENNE-ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN - 4 2017 IN THE TRIAL COURT
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COURT CLERK
DEPUTY

In The Matter Of The Guardianship Of:
J.C. DOB: 01/05/2001

Case No: PG-2016-0126

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes to: DOROTHY CARRASCO
JORGE CARRASCO, SR.

You are hereby notified that SHANTEL GABRIEL has filed in this Court a Petition For Appointment of Guardianship of the person and/or estate of J.C. minor child, and that said Petition is hereby set for a Hearing to be heard in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **19th** day of **APRIL**, 2017 at **10:00 A.M.**, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said relief should not be granted.

Dated this 4TH day of JANUARY, 2017.

Edwina Whiteman, Court Clerk
Cheyenne-Arapaho Trial Court

Plaintiff:
SHANTEL GABRIEL

IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN - 4 2017 IN THE TRIAL COURT
DOCKET____ PAGE____
FILM____ IMAGE____
COURT CLERK
DEPUTY

In The Matter Of The Guardianship Of:
J.S. DOB:12/06/06
C.S. DOB: 10/20/07
J.S. DOB: 01/15/09
C.D. DOB; 08/24/12
Minor Children

Case No. PG-2016-128

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES TO: KRYSTAL DELGADO
ISAI SANCHEZ

TAKE NOTICE that SUSAN WITTE has filed in this Court a Petition For Guardianship on the above-named minor children in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma,

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE of the Petition and you may submit a written protest in the case.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that this matter is hereby set for hearing on the **18th** day of **JANUARY**, 2017 at **10:00 A.M.**, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said Guardianship should not be granted.

Dated this 4TH day of JANUARY, 2017.

Edwina Whiteman, Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

AARP Oklahoma opens nominations for 2017 Indian Elder Honors

Ninth annual celebration to recognize impact on Tribes, family and community

(OKLAHOMA CITY) AARP Oklahoma is accepting nominations for its ninth annual Indian Elder Honors to celebrate 50 Native American elders who have positively impacted their community, family, tribe and nation. Since its inception in 2009 AARP Oklahoma has recognized 400 elders from all 39-federally recognized tribes and nations in Oklahoma.

"The AARP Indian Elder Honors recognizes the extraordinary contribution of Indian elders, many of whom have never been recognized before," AARP Oklahoma Volunteer State President Joe Ann Vermillion said.

Last year's honorees included teachers, veterans, nurses, artists, tribal leaders, language and culture preservationists and even a Pulitzer Prize-winning author. AARP State Director Sean Voskuhl said, "This event celebrates a lifetime of service from these distinguished elders. The common thread between the honorees, regardless of the contributions, is the commitment to community and service."

This year's Indian Elder Honors will be held Oct.3, 2017 in Oklahoma City. Nomination applications are online at www.aarp.org/NDNElders. Nominations may be emailed to msourjohn@aarp.org or mailed to AARP Oklahoma, 126 N. Bryant, Edmond, OK, 73034. Nominees must be an enrolled member of a federally-recognized Oklahoma tribe or nation, age 50+, and must be living. Nominees do not have to be AARP members.

For more information, please contact Mashell Sourjohn at 405-715-4474 or email msourjohn@aarp.org. The deadline for submitting nominations is May 1, 2017.

Some of the Cheyenne and Arapaho elders who have been honored in the past for their contributions include Robert Wilson (2012), Irene Williams (2013), Bill Tallbear (2013), Dr. Ralph Dru (2014), Chief Moses Starr Jr. (2014), Raymond 'Red' Stonecalf (2014), Chief Allen Sutton (2015) and Viola Hatch (2016).

Some of the Cheyenne and Arapaho elders who have been honored in the past for their contributions include Robert Wilson (2012), Irene Williams (2013), Bill Tallbear (2013), Dr. Ralph Dru (2014), Chief Moses Starr Jr. (2014), Raymond 'Red' Stonecalf (2014), Chief Allen Sutton (2015) and Viola Hatch (2016).

About AARP

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, with a membership of nearly 38 million that helps people turn their goals and dreams into 'Real Possibilities' by changing the way America defines aging. With staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, AARP works to strengthen communities and promote the issues that matter most to families such as healthcare security, financial security and personal fulfillment. AARP also advocates for individuals in the marketplace by selecting products and services of high quality and value to carry the AARP name. As a trusted source for news and information, AARP produces the world's largest circulation magazine, AARP The Magazine and AARP Bulletin. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to political campaigns or candidates. To learn more, visit www.aarp.org or follow @aarp and our CEO @ JoAnn_Jenkins on Twitter.

Repealing Obamacare taxes gives the super wealthy $7 million more a year

Should President-elect Donald Trump and congressional Republicans make good on their pledge to dismantle the Affordable Care Act, the repeal of a handful of tax increases on individuals and businesses and the elimination of a federal tax credit that subsidizes health insurance premiums likely would result in a massive windfall for wealthy households and a financial setback for low and moderate-income people, according to a new study.

Indeed, the 400 highest income taxpayers in the country could receive millions of dollars in tax relief next year while middle and lower income Americans would come up empty or in the hole, according to the report by the liberal-leaning Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Obamacare is financed by a combination of tax increases on individuals and businesses, Medicare tax increases and cost savings measures, among others. Those taxes, which have long been criticized by Republican lawmakers and special interest groups, potentially could be wiped away if the Republican-controlled Congress moves ahead with plans to repeal Obamacare in the coming month or two, without a clear replacement plan.

The study released on Thursday, Jan. 12 focused on two Obamacare taxes that target the wealthiest households in the country but have virtually no effect on middle and lower-income Americans. One is a 0.9 percent federal Hospital Insurance tax increase on individuals with incomes above $200,000 and couples with incomes above $250,000. The other is a 3.8 percent Medicare tax on "unearned income" that wealthy Americans derive from capital gains, dividends and royalties.

The top 400 highest-income taxpayers with average annual incomes of more than $300 million each, would receive an estimated average annual tax cut of $7 million as part of the repeal, according to the study of Internal Revenue Service data.That would result in a $2.8 billion a year loss in tax revenue to the Treasury.

Roughly 160 million households with incomes below $200,000 would get nothing from the repeal of these two taxes, according to the report.

Meanwhile, the repeal of Obamacare would effectively raise taxes on about seven million low-and-moderate income families that currently qualify for health insurance premium tax credits under the federal tax code. Those credits, which can be used to purchase private health insurance policies through government-run marketplaces, will be worth on average $4,800 this year.

"The $2.8 billion a year total tax cut for the top 400, is roughly the value of premium tax credits that 813,000 people in the 20 smallest states and Washington, D.C. would lose combined if the ACA is repealed without a replacement," the study notes.

Before the advent of the 2010 health reform law, Medicare taxes applied only to wage and salary and self-employment income, and not to unearned income from wealth, according to the study. That meant that low and moderate income families with little if any unearned income felt the brunt of the tax on practically all of their income, while the wealthiest taxpayers owed no Medicare taxes on their hefty dividends and capital gains, which frequently accounted for a significant share of their total income.

"Repealing the two ACA Medicare taxes, particularly the 3.8 percent tax on investment and other unearned income, delivers tax cuts that are extremely tilted to the top," the report states. "In fact, the 0.4 percent of households with income of over $1million a year would reap 80 percent of the benefits of repealing these two provisions in 2017.

Similarly, the Urban Institute last December published an analysis of the effects of Obamacare repeal suggesting that doing away with the law would be a de facto tax cut in and of itself, with the benefits disproportionately going to the wealthy and very wealthy.

"Repealing the Affordable Care Act would cut taxes significantly for the highest income one percent of US households," wrote Howard Gleckman of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center in Washington. "At the same time, it would raise taxes on average for low- and moderate-income households."

The reports are speculative in part because there is no way of knowing at this point the fate of these tax increases which have been vital in operating the Obamacare program and providing subsidies to many of the 20 million people who take part in the program.

As *The Fiscal Times* has reported, it is now dawning on GOP leaders that repealing the dozen or so major Obamacare tax increases along with the premium subsidies for low and middle-income Americans would seriously crimp their effort to devise and finance a substitute health insurance program down the road.

Native American students sue the U.S. Government over dismal education

By Rebecca Klein, The Huffington Post

Kindergarten student Taylor P. has only spent a short period of time in school, but already the experience has been traumatic. Taylor, who attends school on her Havasupai Native American reservation in Arizona, is regularly left unsupervised in class, according to a new lawsuit filed today by nine of the school's students. Once, when her kindergarten teacher was not present, she was pinned against a wall by another child and choked. After she first started school, the lawsuit says, she was sexually assaulted and penetrated by another student on the playground. She is without access to adequate textbooks and extracurricular activities.

Taylor is not alone. Students at the Havasupai Elementary School have systematically been denied of quality educational opportunities, according to the lawsuit. It's not just the school's fault. As a school operated by the Bureau of Indian Education, it is the federal government's responsibility to make sure these kids are getting the resources to which they are entitled.

The Bureau of Indian Education, part of the Department of the Interior, is entrusted with funding over 150 schools and directly operating over 50, including Havasupai. However, the government has failed miserably in fulfilling these responsibilities, the lawsuit argues. The schools operated by the BIE tend to underperform on tests, have low graduation rates, and are sometimes in dire physical conditions, according to reports from the United States Government Accountability Office. Indeed, in 2013, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell told the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs that "Indian education is an embarrassment ... to you and to us."

The situation at Havasupai is especially alarming. According to the lawsuit, filed by five legal groups including the American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico and Public Counsel, students there are only given instruction in reading, writing and math, at the exclusion of subjects like science and art. The K-8 school is chronically understaffed, and sometimes shuts down for weeks at a time when teachers are not available. Secretaries and janitors are sometimes tasked with running classrooms. The school fails to deliver appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities, and does not offer culturally relevant education, says the lawsuit.

The lawsuit names the principal of the school, the Bureau of Indian and the Department of the Interior and its leaders as defendants. Lawyers on the case hope that it will have national implications for the quality of education offered to Native American students who attend BIE schools around the country. Currently, a vast majority of Native American kids attend public schools that are not operated by the BIE.

"Every day these students wake up go to school and see that absolutely nothing has changed," said Kathryn Eidmann, staff attorney at Public Counsel on a call with reporters. "This institutional disregard communicates an unmistakable message that the government believes these children are disposable."

The stories of the individual kids represented in the suit are shocking.

Stephen C., an 11-year-old student with special needs, has barely received any instruction since late November because the school is not able to provide the necessary special education services, the suit says. He has been a victim of the school-to-prison pipeline, and was prosecuted in federal court for messing with the wires of a school computer monitor.

"For too many years I have seen the BIE fail to give my grandson and other children a chance at decent education because of the BIE's failures," Stephen's grandfather said on a call with reporters. "Stephen is in the sixth grade but does not have basic skills or knowledge. He is struggling to read and write."

Another plaintiff, Anna D., had five different teachers over the course of the first grade, the suit says. Eighth-grade student Levi R. has been faced overly harsh discipline at the school. At 10 years old, the lawsuit alleges, the student with special needs was forcibly restrained by a teacher who sat and laid on him.

The education offered at Havasupai Elementary is a "stain on our national conscience," said Eidmann.

A representative for the school said that they had no comment on the lawsuit.

The Bureau of Indian Education and the Department of the Interior did not immediately return requests for comment.

This WEEK at
LuckyStar CASINO
CONCHO • CLINTON • CANTON • WATONGA
CONCHO TRAVEL CENTER • HAMMON TRAVEL CENTER
LuckyStar CASINO
SUPERB BOWL
DREAM GIVEAWAY!
PLAY FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN
TICKETS TO THE BIG GAME, AIRFARE AND HOTEL STAY FOR 2!
EARN ENTRIES FROM
DECEMBER 31, 2016
THROUGH JANUARY 22, 2017
10 POINTS = 1 DRAWING ENTRY
GRAND PRIZE DRAWING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
AT 8:30PM
One entry per player per day. Must be redeemed during Player's Club hours.
Must be a Star Card Player. One promo per person, per day.
See Player's Club for details.
CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES
LuckyStarCasino.org | See Player's Club for Details.
Promotions valid during Player's Club hours. One promo per person, per day. Management reserves all rights to cancel or modify any or all